

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

2. (Amended) A laser oscillator comprising:

laser oscillation means for employing a discharge to excite a laser gas and to generate a laser beam;

a box for storing said laser oscillation means; and

a plate member provided at an inner wall of said box, at a location where ultraviolet rays generated by said discharge are exposed, and on which an optical catalyst layer is formed.

5. (Amended) A laser oscillator comprising:

laser oscillation means for employing a discharge to excite a laser gas and to generate a laser beam;

a box for storing said laser oscillation means; and

a plate member provided at an inner wall of said box, at a location where ultraviolet rays generated by said discharge are exposed, and on which a graphitized layer is formed.

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7. (Amended) A laser oscillator comprising:

laser oscillation means for employing a discharge by a pair of discharge electrodes that face each other across an intervening discharge space to excite a laser gas and to generate a laser beam;

a box for storing said laser oscillation means; and

a recess portion arranged in said box for receiving ultraviolet rays generated by said laser oscillation means, and for reflecting said ultraviolet rays so that the reflected light passes through said discharge space between said pair of discharge electrodes.

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9. (Amended) A laser oscillator comprising:

laser oscillation means for employing a discharge to excite a laser gas and to generate a laser beam;

cooling means for cooling said laser gas that is heated by said discharge;

a collector for removing hydrogen fluoride from said laser gas; and

a box for storing said laser oscillation means, said cooling means and said collector,

wherein said collector is located between said cooling means and said laser oscillation means along a path followed by said laser gas while circulating inside said box.